

A disappointing season this year with numbers down, even compared with covid-interrupted monitoring seasons. Since 2018, sightings declined by 40% although species diversity was unchanged. On surface view, it appears the community here is stable - but the devil is in the detail! Closer inspection indicates sharp declines in species such as Orange Tips and Marbled Whites which enhance biodiversity in spring and early summer, and increases in Speckled Woods and Holly Blues. As always, weather conditions have a major impact, directly or indirectly, on numbers. This year a cold and wet spring followed by near drought conditions in the summer were a challenge for certain species, but it is also important to try to disentangle patterns in the data which are critical in assessing effectiveness of conservation.



BUTTERFLIES of CLIFTON & DURDHAM DOWN 2022

UK BMS

(SOMERSET & BRISTOL SPECIES)

SITE NAME

CLIFTON/DURDHAM DOWN, BRISTOL

RECORDER

FOD+AG TEAM

YEAR

2022

DATE

1.4 - 30.6

WEEK NO.

1 - 13

DATE

1.7 - 29.9

WEEK NO.

14 - 26

FOD

AG

WEEK NUMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	SIGHTINGS	SEASON %																										
Small skipper														4		5		1									10	12																										
Large skipper																	1										1	4																										
Dingy skipper																																																						
Grizzled skipper																																																						
Wood white																																																						
Clouded yellow																																																						
Brimstone				2		1		1																			4	12																										
Large white			1	4		7			2					6		1	4		5	1							31	36																										
Small white				4	1	12		1	1					10		4		1	9			2	2	1			48	48																										
Green-veined white																																																						
Orange tip				2		1																					3	8																										
Green hairstreak																																																						
Purple hairstreak																																																						
Brown hairstreak																																																						
White-letter hairstreak																																																						
Small copper																																																						
Small blue			1																								1	4																										
Brown argus																																																						
Common blue												6				6	2	2	5	1							22	24																										
Chalkhill blue																																																						
Holly blue				6		23			1							3	7	4		3	4	1					52	36																										
Large blue																																																						
Duke of burgundy																																																						
White admiral																																																						
Red admiral																								6			6	4																										
Painted lady																																																						
Small tortoiseshell			1	1						1		2						1									6	20																										
Peacock			1			1																					2	8																										
Comma														1			1										2	8																										
Small pearl-bordered Frit.																											2																											
High brown fritillary																																																						
Dark green fritillary																																																						
Marsh fritillary																																																						
Silver-washed fritillary																1				1							2	8																										
Heath fritillary																																																						
Speckled wood			3	5	1	6		3	15	1		4		7		6	16	7	6	1	15	2	4	4	2	5	113	80																										
Wall																																																						
Marbled white												3				1											4	8																										
Grayling																																																						
Gatekeeper										2				14		12	24	7									59	20																										
Meadow brown												12		15		12	2	3	2	1							47	28																										
Ringlet												2		23		1											26	12																										
Small heath												1															1	4																										
TOTAL - Butterflies	0	2	6	23	2	51		5	19	4		30		80		52	57	26	27	8	19	5	6	11	2	5	440																											
TOTAL - species	2	4	6	2	7		3	4	3		7		8		11	8	8	5	6	2	3	2	3	1	1																													
CUMUL. TOT. - species	0	2	5	9					10		15		17		18	19								20			20																											
WEEK NUMBER	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	SIGHTINGS	AVERAGE SUNSHINE																										
% SUNSHINE/TEMP.	80	60	19	50	13	100	16	50	15	90	20	NR	0	15	100	19	10	19	98	25							88	21	98	35	60	25	100	23	100	27	100	28	70	20	60	25	60	23	100	22	70	15	70	18			73	21
NOTES:	Recording sheet has been modified to adapt it for summarising season's data.																																																					
	• Column numbers are now survey week numbers, not transect section numbers.																																																					
	• Blocks indicate species presence in transect in that week.																																																					
	• Numbers in blocks refer to numbers of insects in whole transect.																																																					
	• Column total refer to number of different species seen in that week.																																																					
	• Number in final "Total" column refers to total number of species seen in the season.																																																					
	• Sightings refers to number of individuals of that species recorded in the season.																																																					
	• Season % refers to proportion of weeks / 26 week season when species was present.																																																					

